

COPY



MEC
OPINION NO.

2000.07.101

STATE OF MISSOURI
MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION
P. O. BOX 1254
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102

573/751-2020
1-800/392-8660

July 31, 2000

NOTICE

Anyone examining this advisory opinion should be careful to note that an opinion of the Missouri Ethics Commission deals only with the specific request to which the opinion responded and only as to the law as it existed at the date of the response and cannot be relied upon for any other purpose or in any other manner.

At the July 26, 2000 meeting of the Missouri Ethics Commission, your request for an opinion was discussed. The following is the Commission's response to your questions:

Is it permissible for a candidate to raise money for political party committees and then request contributions from those same political party committees up to the amount of the contribution limit?

In response to question number one, the Commission stated there is no prohibition on candidates raising money for political party committees, nor is there a general prohibition against a candidate's requesting contributions from political party committees where the candidate has solicited contributions for the political party committee. However, candidates must be mindful of the prohibitions of section 130.031.3 RSMo. In that vein, contributions made to or accepted from political party committees cannot be made in such a manner as to conceal the identity of the actual source of the contribution. For example, candidates cannot request contributions be made to political party committees with the express purpose of passing those contributions through the committee to the candidate.

Is a candidate allowed to accept maximum contributions from several political party committees or are those aggregate limits?

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In response to this question, the Commission stated candidates are allowed to accept the maximum contribution as established by section 130.032.4 RSMo from each political party committee.

Sincerely,


Charles G. Lamb, Ph.D.
Executive Director

MCR:bd

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